

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

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R 020711Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 317
INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 3040

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, AS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SAMA IOGA TRADE MISSION TO AUSTRALIA,
INDONESIA, AND SINGAPORE

REF: (A) STATE 088201, (B) 10 FAM 973

1. AUSTRALIAN POSTS WELCOME PROPOSED SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS MAKERS ASSOCIATION (SAMA) IOGA TRADE MISSION (THIS IS A JOINT RESPONSE).
 2. CONGEN SYDNEY HAS CONTACTED ORGANIZER OF LABEX, NOW KNOWN AS LABTRONEX, WHO INDICATED A DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH MISSION ON A NO-COST, NO-PROFIT BASIS. HE SAID THAT HE EXPECTS ABOUT 1,000 DELEGATES TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION (JULY 25-29) AND SOME 3,000 PEOPLE FROM THE TRADE ONLY TO ATTEND THE EXPOSITION (JULY 26-29). THESE DATES OF COURSE WILL NECESSITATE A CHANGE IN MISSION'S PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN DATES IF IT IS TO BE PRESENT IN SYDNEY DURING LABTRONEX.
 3. LABTRONEX IS BIOMEDICALLY ORIENTED, AND INCLUSION OF OTHER SUBJECTS IN THE EVENT ITSELF WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE. HOWEVER,
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- REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER DISCIPLINES COULD PROFITABLY DO OTHER BUSINESS IN SYDNEY WHILE THEIR BIOMEDICALLY ORIENTED COLLEAGUES PARTICIPATED IN THE SHOW.
4. SHOW ORGANIZER, DICK GLOVER, WOULD BE DELIGHTED, OF COURSE, IF AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES OF TRADE MISSION MEMBERS WERE TO PARTICIPATE AS PAYING EXHIBITORS. MINIMUM CHARGE

WOULD BE \$500 FOR A 2X3 METER BOOTH. PROBABLY AT LEAST ANOTHER A\$100 WOULD BE SPENT ON FURNISHINGS, DECOR, ETC.

5. IT WOULD ALSO BE POSSIBLE FOR THE MISSION AS A GROUP TO TAKE A BOOTH IF THEY SO DESIRE.

6. WHETHER OR NOT THEY PAY FOR BOOTH SPACE, FIRST-RATE LECTURERS ON BIOMEDICAL SUBJECTS WOULD BE PROVIDED LECTURE-HALL SPACE AND APPROPRIATE PROMOTION ON TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY FOR A FEE TO COVER EXPENSES ONLY (PROBABLY A TOTAL OF LESS THAN \$US100, MR. GLOVER PREDICTS). IF THEY CAN SPEAK ON SUBJECTS ALREADY SCHEDULED FOR THE SHOW SEMINARS, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO PROGRAM THEM INTO THE SEMINARS. THESE SUBJECTS ARE: INTERNATIONAL PROGRESS IN CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, MODERN TECHNIQUES IN LUNG FUNCTION TESTING, RAMIFICATIONS OF COMPUTERIZED AXIAL TOMOGRAPHY SCANNING, RAPID METHODS IN MICROBIOLOGY, COMPUTERS IN MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, EFFECTIVE ORGAN IMAGING BY ULTRASOUND AND NUCLEAR MEDICINE - AN ALTERNATIVE TO CAT SCANNING, CURRENT TRENDS IN ACUTE CARE.

7. CONGEN MELBOURNE HAS IDENTIFIED AND CONTACTED FOUR LEADING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH/BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS, AND THEY REACTED POSITIVELY TO THE MISSION. MISSION WOULD BE WELCOME DURING WEEK OF JULY 18, AS INITIALLY PROPOSED, OR SUBSEQUENT WEEK IF SCHEDULE CHANGED BECAUSE OF LABTRONEX DATES.

8. CONGEN BELIEVES SEMINAR OR FORUM-TYPE MEETINGS WOULD BE EFFECTIVE MEANS OF EXPLORING PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF DOING BUSINESS WITH AUSTRALIA. FOUR ORGANIZATIONS WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD PROBABLY BE WILLING TO ASSIST IN ORGANIZING SUCH GATHERINGS ARE: VICTORIA CHAMBER OF MANUFACTURERS' SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENT SECTION; CSIRO'S MELBOURNE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE; IAN CLUNIES ROSS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION (WHICH IS ALSO OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED AS THE NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTER); BHP'S MELBOURNE RESEARCH LABORATORIES. IN VIEW OF INTEREST EXPRESSED AND SIZE AND SCOPE OF SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY, MELBOURNE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IF MISSION WERE TO SPEND LONGER IN AUSTRALIA, UP TO A WEEK IN BOTH SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, ESPECIALLY IF TRADE MISSION MEMBERS WANT INDIVIDUAL ITINERARIES AND APPOINTMENTS.

9. VICTORIA, ACCORDING TO HEAD OF VICTORIA INSTITUTE OF COLLEGES (A SORT OF BOARD OF REGENTS FOR 30 TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS), HAS COUNTRY'S GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTIONS. AMONG THESE ARE ROYAL MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SIX OR MORE OTHER TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTES. MELBOURNE AND MONASH UNIVERSITIES HAVE LARGE WORLD-CLASS MEDICAL SCHOOLS AND VERY STRONG

DEPARTMENTS OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES. THE WALTER AND ELIZA HALL RESEARCH INSTITUTE IS A WORLD-RENOWNED MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER; AMERICANS, IN FACT, FREQUENTLY COME TO WORK THERE. THERE ARE PERHAPS A DOZEN MAJOR TEACHING HOSPITALS, SUCH AS ROYAL MELBOURNE, ROYAL CHILDREN'S, ROYAL WOMEN'S, ROYAL VICTORIAN EYE AND EAR.

10. CSIRO (COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION) HAS A MAJOR COMPLEX OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DIVISIONS AND LABORATORIES IN MELBOURNE AREA. CHEMICAL PHYSICS DIVISION IS DOING MOST IMPORTANT WORK IN SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTATION OF ANY PLACE IN AUSTRALIA. ANIMAL RESEARCH LABS, AND DIVISIONS OF APPLIED ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, APPLIED GEOMECHANICS, BUILDING RESEARCH, CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY, COMPUTING RESEARCH, FOOD RESEARCH, MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, AND TRIBOPHYSICS. OTHER LABS INCLUDE ENVIRONMENTAL PHYSICS RESEARCH, MINERALS RESEARCH, SOLAR UNCLASSIFIED

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ENERGY STUDIES, AND WOOL RESEARCH. COMMONWEALTH SERUM LABORATORIES ARE ALSO IN MELBOURNE.

11. IAN CLUNIES ROSS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION BUILDING SERVES AS HEADQUARTERS FOR MOST IF NOT ALL OF AUSTRALIA'S LEARNED SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES AND IS "FOCAL POINT FOR SCIENCE IN AUSTRALIA," CLEARING HOUSE FOR SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION, MEETING PLACE, AND CROSS-DISCIPLINARY EXCHANGE MEDIUM. IT HAS FACILITIES FOR SEMINARS AND OTHER SUCH EVENTS. CHAIRMAN IS SIR IAN MCLENNAN, CHAIRMAN OF BHP, AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST CORPORATION, WHICH ITSELF HAS A SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH LABORATORY IN MELBOURNE.

12. IF MISSION CAN WORK IN ADDITIONAL TIME FOR AUSTRALIA, IT MIGHT ALSO BE USEFUL TO SPEND A DAY IN CANBERRA. CSIRO OFFICIAL ADVISES THAT SOME VERY IMPORTANT WORK INVOLVING SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTATION OF THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IS BEING DONE AT CSIRO CANBERRA AND AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN CANBERRA. OTHER RELEVANT OFFICES IN CANBERRA ARE THE TECHNICAL POLICY BRANCH OF DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, PATENTS OFFICE, AND PERHAPS THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY. PERCIVAL

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